

Proposed Five-Year Renewal of the Intellectually Disabled and Related Disabilities (ID/RD) Waiver

South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) has posted a public notice that may be important to you or your family member with special healthcare needs.

The State is proposing to renew the ID/RD home and community-based waiver program with the following changes:

- Revise the Medicaid Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) level of care criteria to clarify the developmental period for intellectual disability is prior to age 22. This clarifies the wording in the waiver to say the developmental period is up to age 22 before there was no age identified.
- Address the CMS Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule requirements. Basically, the final rule enhances the quality of HCBS, provides additional protections to HCBS program participants, and ensures that individuals receiving services through HCBS programs have full access to the benefits of community living. For more information about the HCBS Final Rule, visit <http://www.familyconnectionsc.org/webinars.html> to view the HCBS Final Rule Webinar.
- Revise performance measures for quality improvement as needed to comply with HCB settings requirements and other new regulatory components for waiver actions.
- Revise respite service provider qualifications to expand provider availability for unskilled respite services by using qualified personal care provider agencies.
- Upon implementation of waiver case management, the minimum number of waiver services that an individual must require in order to be determined to need waiver services is two. Each waiver participant will need to receive a minimum of two waiver services at least monthly. This includes waiver case management as one service and adding one more service based on the waiver participant individual need. Previously each participant was required to receive only a minimum of one waiver service each month.
- Pest control will be added as a new service. This new service will include home treatment and bed bug treatment, if necessary. The service is authorized by the waiver case manager.
- Psychological services will be available to eligible-Medicaid members through the Medicaid State Plan. Psychological services will no longer be offered in the IDR waiver as a service.

- Clarified the entrance (enrollment) requirements including:
 - All applicants are required to be South Carolina Medicaid eligible, **or** have proof of Medical Assistance Only (MAO) and will be admitted to the waiver on a first-come, first-served basis by date of application.
 - Eligible family members of a member of the armed services who maintains a South Carolina residence, regardless of where the service member is stationed, will maintain waiver status. A family member on the waiting list would return to the same place on the processing list when the family returns to South Carolina. An eligible family member previously enrolled in the waiver program would be reinstated into the waiver program once South Carolina Medicaid eligibility is established upon their return to South Carolina. No services will be provided outside the South Carolina Medicaid Service Area.
- Applicants to be enrolled on a priority basis bypassing the waiting list include the following:
 - Children (ages 0-18) and youth (ages 18-21) served by the South Carolina Department of Social Services Foster Care Program.
 - Individuals requiring a service through the waiver, which if not provided, will likely result in serious and imminent harm; AND has an immediate need for direct care or supervision, which directly relates to the person's disability; OR has recently lost a primary caregiver or is at imminent risk of losing a primary caregiver; OR is ready for or has recently been discharged from a hospital and needs services immediately to prevent readmission.
 Individuals admitted to community-based housing sponsored, licensed, or certified by the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs needing waiver supports and services.

To read the Public Notice from SCDHHS and learn how to submit comments on the draft waiver renewal document and Home and Community Based Services transition plan or to read the proposed waiver renewal document, visit <http://www.familyconnectionsc.org/medicaid-waivers.html>.